

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAIGON 08836 01 OF 05 031503Z

44

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 CIEP-02 AID-20 IO-14 DPW-01

DRC-01 /167 W

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R 031130Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6434

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS UNN

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CG FMFPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB

CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER

COMUSMACTHAI

DAO/ SAIGON/AOSOP-OR

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 08836 01 OF 05 031503Z

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 1 OF 5 SAIGON 8836

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PINS, MILI, VS

SUBJECT: VIET-NAM CEASE-FIRE WEEKLY ASSESSMENT JUNE 26-JULY 3, 1974

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

#### PART I SUMMARY

1. IN MR-1, THE NUMBER OF VIOLATIONS DROPPED SIGNIFICANTLY, EXCEPT IN QUANG NAM PROVINCE. HERE THE NUMBER OF MINING INCIDENTS REMAINED HIGH, AND ROCKET/MORTAR SHELLING REACHED A THREE MONTH HIGH POINT. IN THUA THIEN PROVINCE RVN FORCES RETOOK H273, SOUTH OF HUE AFTER SEVERAL WEEKS' LOW KEY EFFORT. THROUGHOUT THE REGION, CASUALTY NUMBERS REMAINED ON A PAR WITH PREVIOUS WEEKS, DESPITE FEWER INCIDENTS. THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS REMAINED LOW IN MR-2, AND THE NUMBER OF AIR STRIKES WAS WELL DOWN. RUMORS CIRCULATED IN MR-2 THAT THE HUNGARIAN ICCS TEAM WAS THINKING OF PULLING ALL OFFICERS BACK TO AT LEAST THEIR REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS. THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS IN MR-3 DECLINED, WITH THE HIGHEST ACTIVITY IN BINH DUONG PROVINCE. CAUSALTIES IN THE REGION WERE THE HIGHEST SINCE THE CEASEFIRE. SIGNIFICANT ENEMY ABF'S DROPPED BY HALF, AND RVNAF ARTILLERY USAGE ROSE SHARPLY. COMMUNIST FORCES CONTINUE TO OCCUPY OUTPOST 2 AND RACH BAP. NVA SAPPERS STRUCK A TRAINING CENTER IN BIEN HOA, KILLING BOTH MILITARY AND DEPEND-ENTS. OVERALL, ACTIVITY IN MR-4 DECLINED, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF DINH TOUNG PROVINCE WHERE INCREASED ACTIVITY, DUE MOSTLY TO GVN OPERATIONS, WAS REPORTED. ENEMY ACTION DROPPED SHARPLY IN KIEN GIANG. ACTIVITY ALSO DROPPED IN BAC LIEU AND IN BA XUYEN, THOUGH GVN CASUALTIES ROSE IN THE LATTER. THE HUNGARIAN CHAIRMAN COMPLETED THE MONTH OF JUNE WITHOUT CONVENING A PLENARY SESSION OF THE ICCS, DUE TO THE AGENDA IMPASSE ON CEASEFIRE COMPLAINTS. THERE WERE TWO SUCCESSFUL RECOVERY-OF-REMAINS OPERATIONS. ONE INVOLVED THE REMAINS OF AN AMERICAN PILOT AND TWO RVNAF PERSONNEL NORTH OF DANANG. AN EARLIER EXPEDITION BOUGHT OUT APPROXIMATELY 17 CO-MINGLED REMAINS IN KHANH HOA PROVINCE. COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA MEDIA REJECTED, WITHOUT RESPONDING TO ITS SUSBSTANCE, THE EMB STATEMENT OF JUNE 24. THE

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 SAIGON 08836 01 OF 05 031503Z

JUNE 26 MEETING OF THE US AND GVN FPJMT DELS WAS LABELED A "CHARADE", AND THE COMMUNISTS DEMANDED AGAIN THAT THE GVN SIGN A DOCUMENT PLEDGING "TO RESPECT THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES AND ADOPT A SERIOUS ATTITUDE AT THE NEGOTIATING TABLE."

#### PART II ICCS

2. THE HUNGARIAN CHAIRMAN FOR JUNE SUCCEEDED IN GETTING

THROUGH THE WHOLE MONTH WITHOUT A PLENARY SESSION BECAUSE OF THE AGENDA IMPASSE ON CEASEFIRE VIOLATION COMPLAINTS. THE INDONESIAN CHAIRMAN FOR JULY IS MAKING AN ACTIVE EFFORT TO RESOLVE THE IMPASSE AND RESUME PLENARIES.

### PART III FPJMT/TPJMC AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

3. COL GIANG, DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE "PRG" DEL TO TPJMC, REITERATED AT WEEKLY PRESS BRIEFING JUNE 29 THAT NEITHER HIS DEL NOR THAT OF DRV WILL REAPPEAR AT JMT OR JMC MEETINGS UNTIL THEY ARE GRANTED THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES THEY ARE CLAIMING IN THEIR DRAFT AGREEMENT AND UNTIL THEY RECEIVE A RESPONSE FROM "THE OTHER SIDE" TO THE "PRG'S" SIX POINT PROPOSAL. AS A CONSEQUENCE, THERE WERE NO MEETINGS OF THE TPJMC AND ONLY THE US AND RVN DELS APPEARED FOR THE SCHEDULED FPJMT MEETINGS JUNE 28 AND JULY 2. (U)

4. IN THE FACE OF HANOI'S CONTINUING NON-COMPLIANCE WITH ARTICLE 8(B) OR ANY ASPECT OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT RELATED THERETO, THE US AND GVN CONTINUE THEIR BILATERAL EFFORTS TO FURTHER THE HUMANITARIAN GOALS STIPULATED THEREIN. ON JUNE 26 A SMALL RVNAF RECOVERY PARTY BROUGHT OUT THE REMAINS OF AN AMERICAN PILOT AND TWO RVNAF PERSONNEL FROM AN ISOLATED CRASH SITE WHICH HAD BEEN LOCATED BY WOODCUTTERS ON THE COAST NORTH OF DANANG. THE PILOT'S REMAINS WERE DELIVERED TO US FPJMT AND JCRC PERSONNEL AT A SOLEMN PLANESIDE CEREMONY AT DANANG AIRFIELD ON JUNE 28. (U)

5. FURTHER SOUTH, LOCAL GVN MILITARY AUTHORITIES ARE EXPLORING THE FEASIBILITY OF A SECOND RECOVERY ATTEMPT AT THE ALMOST INACCESSIBLE SITE OF A C-123 CRASH IN KHANH HOA PROVINCE. AN EARLIER EXPEDITION--COORDINATED WITH CONGEN NHA TRANG AND JCRC--BROUGHT OUT APPROXIMATELY 17 CO-MINGLED REMAINS, BUT UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE PREVENTS ACCESS TO THE INSIDE OF THE AIR-  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 SAIGON 08836 01 OF 05 031503Z

CRAFT, WHICH IS BELIEVED TO CONTAIN THE REMAINS OF FOUR US CREWMEN. (LOU)

### PART IV COMMUNIST MEDIA COMMENT

6. COMMUNISTS DEFEND TALKS SUSPENSION. WITHOUT RESPONDING TO ITS SUBSTANCE, THE COMMUNISTS HAVE REJECTED THE EMB JUNE 24 STATEMENT WHICH ACCUSED THEM OF REFUSING TO NEGOTIATE ON ISSUES OF SUBSTANCE AND OF SEEKING A VAST EXTENSION OF THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES ACCORDED THEIR DELS UNDER THE PARIS AGREEMENT. A JUNE 27 COMMENTARY IN HANOI'S ARMY NEWSPAPER, "QUAN DOI NHAN DAN", WENT ON TO LABEL THE JUNE 26 MEETING BETWEEN US AND GVN FPJMT DELS A "CHARADE". THE COMMENTARY BLASTED THE GVN FOR ITS ALLEGED ATTEMPTS TO "EXERT PRESSURE" AND "INSOLENTLY THREATEN" THE

COMMUNIST DELS BY TREATING THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES  
AS "FAVORS" WHICH CAN BE EXTENDED OR WITHDRAWN AT THE GVN'S  
WHIM. THE PAPER REPEATED THE COMMUNISTS' DEMAND THAT THE GVN  
SIGN A DOCUMENT PLEDGING "TO RESPECT THE PRIVILEGES AND  
IMMUNITIES AND ADOPT A SERIOUS ATTITUDE AT THE NEGOTIATING  
TABLE.", STATING THAT THIS IS "A MINIMUM CONDITION FOR THE TALKS TO  
CONTINUE."

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 08836 02 OF 05 031456Z

44

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

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PAGE 02 SAIGON 08836 02 OF 05 031456Z

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 5 SAIGON 8836

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

PART V - MR-1

1. SECURITY SITUATION:

ACCORDING TO I CORPS HEADQUARTERS THERE WERE 112 COMMUNIST  
CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS LAST WEEK. THIS REPRESENTS A SIGNIFICANT  
DECLINE FROM THE LAST TWO WEEKS' AVERAGE OF 180. ACTIVITY  
DECREASED MARKEDLY IN ALL PROVINCES EXCEPT QUANG NAM, WHICH  
SAW AN INCREASE, PARTICULARLY IN SHELLINGS. CASUALTIES REMAINED  
ON A PAR WITH PRECEDING WEEKS DESPITE THE REDUCED NUMBER OF  
INCIDENTS. GVN CASUALTIES: 71 KIA, 338 WIA. NVA/VC LOSSES:  
145 KIA, 1 RETURNEE.

2. NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS IN QUANG TRI AND THUA THIEN DECLINED  
SLIGHTLY DURING THE WEEK. IN QUANG TRI ON JUNE 27TH A VNAF  
AIR RECONNAISSANCE PLANE FLYING IN THE MARINE AREA OF OPERATION  
NEAR THE CUA VIET RIVER WAS FIRED UPON BY 12.7MM HEAVY MACHINE  
GUNS WOUNDING ONE AIR OBSERVER AND DAMAGING THE CRAFT SLIGHTLY.  
THE PLANE LANDED SAFELY. ON JUNE 30TH SIX STRONG POINTS OF THE  
6TH MARINE BN IN NORTHERN THUA THIEN WERE MORTARED. GROUND  
ATTACKS FOLLOWED, IN WHICH TWO STRONG POINTS WERE LOST  
(YD526281 AND YD484274). MARINE CASUALTIES WERE ONE KIA, 3  
WIA, AND 4 MIA. ON JULY 1ST ANOTHER ELEMENT OF THE 6TH MARINE  
BN WAS MORTARED, BUT THERE WERE NO CASUALTIES. (COMMENT: THESE  
INCIDENTS TOOK PLACE IN TERRITORY FORMERLY WITHIN THE AIRBORNE  
AO BUT INTO WHICH THE MARINES RECENTLY MOVED TO ACCOMMODATE  
AO REALIGNMENT NECESSITATED BY THE REMOVAL OF AN AIRBORNE  
BRIGADE TO SAIGON. THE AIRBORNE FREQUENTLY EXPERIENCED MINOR  
CLASHES IN THIS AREA. END COMMENT.)

3. ELSEWHERE IN THUA THIEN THE MOST SIGNIFICANT ACTION OCCURRED  
ON JUNE 28TH WHEN ELEMENTS OF THE 1ST BN, 54TH REGIMENT OF THE  
1ST DIVISION CAPTURED HILL 273 (YC923995) AFTER A SEVERAL WEEK,  
LOWKEY EFFORT. FRIENDLY CASUALTIES DURING THE FINAL ASSAULT

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SAIGON 08836 02 OF 05 031456Z

WERE 1 KIA, 8 WIA AND 1 MIA. ENEMY LOSSES WERE 14 KIA. ALSO IN THUA THIEN ON JUNE 25TH THREE OUTPOSTS NEAR ZC063967, LOST BY THE 1/127TH RF BN ON JUNE 21ST, WERE RETAKEN WITHOUT CASUALTIES BY THE 3/127TH RF BN.

4. SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

QUANG NAM PROVINCE CONTINUED TO EXPERIENCE A HIGH LEVEL OF SHELLINGS (15) AND MINING INCIDENTS (30). THE PROVINCE CAPITAL OF HOI AN RECEIVED ONE MORTAR ROUND, WHICH WOUNDED ONE CIVILIAN, AND FOUR DISTRICT CAPITALS (DUY XUYEN, DUC DUC, DAI LOC, AND DIEN BAN) WERE SHELLED. MOST OF THE SHELLINGS--THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF MORTAR/ROCKET ATTACKS IN THE PROVINCE DURING THE PAST THREE MONTHS--OCCURRED ON JUNE 25. IN HOA HIEP VILLAGE OF HOA VANG DISTRICT FOUR VIET CONG DISGUISED AS ARVN 3RD DIVISION SOLDIERS ASSASSINATED A POLICEMAN AND A VIS CADRE IN BROAD DAYLIGHT.

5. IN QUANG TIN THERE WAS A MARKED DECLINE IN MILITARY ACTIVITY. MUCH OF THE WEEK'S ACTION WAS INITIATED BY GVN FORCES IN UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPTS TO RETAKE LOST TERRITORY. THERE WAS AN INCREASE IN MINE INCIDENTS, HOWEVER (13 REPORTED). FOR THE SECOND WEEK NVA UNITS REMAINED QUIET, APPARENTLY REGROUPING AND LICKING THEIR WOUNDS. THERE WAS NO MAJOR CHANGE IN THE STATUS QUO IN THE TIEN PHUOC AREA. THE COMMUNISTS CONTINUE TO PROVE THAT THEY HAVE THE PROVINCE HEADQUARTERS IN TAM KY ZEROED IN. ON JUNE 28 SECTOR HEADQUARTERS RECEIVED FIVE ROUNDS OF 122MM ROCKETS. FOUR CIVILIANS AND ONE MILITARY MAN WERE WOUNDED AND A PROVINCE OFFICE BUILDING WAS 80 PERCENT DESTROYED.

6. THE MILITARY SITUATION IN QUANG NGAI WAS RELATIVELY QUIET THROUGHOUT THE WEEK. ON JUNE 26 THE 1ST AND 2ND COMPANIES OF THE 21ST RANGER BATTALION HAD TWO CONTACTS WITH THE ENEMY IN MO DUC DISTRICT, RESULTING IN FRIENDLY LOSSES OF 6 KIA, 5 WIA, AND 1 MIA. 9 ENEMY KIA WERE REPORTED. ELEMENTS OF THE 69TH RANGER BN OPERATING IN SOUTHWESTERN BINH SON DISTRICT WERE ATTACKED TWICE. BOTH SIDES SUFFERED LIGHT CASUALTIES. THERE WERE 14 ATTACKS-BY-FIRE DURING THE WEEK, THE LARGEST A 50-ROUND MORTAR BARRAGE DIRECTED AT AN RF HQS WEST OF QUANG NGAI CITY. TEAR GAS WAS ALSO USED IN THE ATTACK WHICH WOUNDED ONE RF. A SMALL BRIDGE WAS BLOWN ON HIGHWAY 1 SOUTH OF DUC

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PAGE 04 SAIGON 08836 02 OF 05 031456Z

PHO DISTRICT TOWN BUT TRAFFIC RETURNED TO NORMAL WITHIN A DAY.

THE VC ABDUCTED 23 CIVILIANS, ALL RELATIVES OF GVN CIVIL AND  
MILITARY PERSONNEL, IN SON TRUNG VILLAGE, SON TINH DISTRICT.  
THEY WERE RELEASED AFTER A FIVE-HOUR PROPAGANDA LECTURE.

7. ICCS:

THERE WERE NO ICCS OBSERVATIONS IN REGION I. IN REGION II  
THE IRANIANS AND INDONESIANS EACH MADE AN OBSERVATION  
SEPARATELY AND TOGETHER MADE A THIRD.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 08836 03 OF 05 031513Z

44

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

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USDEL FPJMT SAIGON  
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PAGE 02 SAIGON 08836 03 OF 05 031513Z

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 3 OF 5 SAIGON 8836

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

PART VI - MR-2

1. SITUATION SUMMARY: MILITARY INCIDENTS CONTINUED AT A RELATIVELY LOW LEVEL, WITH A TOTAL OF 138 INCIDENTS REPORTED; THIS COMPARES WITH 143 LAST WEEK. THE NUMBER OF AIR STRIKES FELL OFF CONSIDERABLY, DOWN TO 140 FROM 231 LAST WEEK. INCIDENTS IN BINH DINH DECREASED FROM 75 TO 61. THE SECOND MOST ACTIVE PROVINCE WAS PLEIKU WITH 23 INCIDENTS. OTHER INCIDENTS WERE REPORTED IN KONTUM (19), PHU YEN (19), BINH THUAN (10), AND QUANG DU, KHANH HOA AND LAM DONG (1 APIECE). GVN CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED AS 36 KIA, 109 WIA AND 2 MIA. COMMUNIST CASUALTIES WERE LISTED AS 188 KIA AND 12 CIA. OF THE 140 AIR STRIKES, THE MAJORITY (94) WERE IN BINH DINH PROVINCE, WITH 38 IN KONTUM, 4 IN PLEIKU AND 4 IN LAM DONG.

2. BINH DINH PROVINCE: AS THE LEVEL OF MILITARY ACTIVITY DROPPED SOMEWHAT THIS WEEK. PHU MY CONTINUED AS THE MOST ACTIVE AREA, FOLLOWED BY TAM QUAN. THE ENEMY SUFFERED 99 KIA AND 4 CIA COMPARED TO 122 AND 2 A WEEK AGO. FRIENDLY CASUALTIES WERE 30 KIA AND 106 WIA VERSUS 51 AND 118.

3. KONTUM PROVINCE: THE TACTICAL SITUATION REMAINED ROUGHLY THE SAME DURING THE PAST WEEK. CONTACTS AND RESULTS WERE VERY LOW, WITH ARTILLERY (ARVN REPORTEDLY FIRED OVER 5,000 ROUNDS) AS THE LARGEST AREA OF ACTIVITY. SECTOR REPORTED 27 ENEMY KIA, COMPARED TO 10 FRIENDLY. THE MAJORITY OF FRIENDLY LOSSES WERE FROM BOOBY TRAPS. SECTOR ALSO REPORTED A CONTINUATION OF SERIOUS PERSONNEL SHORTAGES. THE PROVINCE CHIEF IS STILL CONCERNED OVER MANG BUK AND CHUONG NGHIA ALTHOUGH NO IMMEDIATE THREAT IS APPARENT. TWO FRIENDLY SAPPER TEAMS SUCCESSFULLY INFILTRATED INTO VO-DINH KILLING FIVE NVA AND CAPTURING MANY DOCUMENTS.

4. OTHER AREAS:



A. BINH THUAN PROVINCE: DURING THE PAST WEEK THE NUMBER OF HOSTILE FIRE INCIDENTS DOUBLED, WITH MUCH OF THE INCREASE  
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 SAIGON 08836 03 OF 05 031513Z

RELATED TO HARASSMENT OF, AND APPARENT EFFORTS TO CUT QL-1. THE NUMBER OF ROUNDS BEING USED IN VC MORTAR ATTACKS HAS INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY. (SEVERAL MONTHS AGO IT WAS UNUSUAL TO HAVE MORE THAN TEN ROUNDS PER INCIDENT, WHEREAS THE SEVEN INCIDENTS REPORTED THIS WEEK INVOLVED 20 TO 50 ROUNDS EACH.) FOR THE SECOND TIME IN AS MANY WEEKS COMMUNIST FORCES ATTACHED THE ONG DONG BRIDGE (BN 049393). LOCAL OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT THE COMMUNISTS WILL TRY TO BLOCK QL-1 IN THE VICINITY OF THE ONG DONG BRIDGE TO DIVERT GVN ATTENTION AWAY FROM THEIR PRIMARY OBJECTIVE, THE THIEN GIAO DISTRICT.

B. QUANG DUC PROVINCE: THERE WERE NO INCIDENTS OF NOTE. ON THE GVN SIDE, THE 53RD REGIMENT REPLACED THE 45TH REGIMENT. QL-14 SOUTH TO PHUOC LONG PROVINCE IS CLOSED WITH THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE 258TH RF BATTALION FROM ROAD SECURITY. THE PROVINCE CHIEF HAS ORDERED THAT, TO SAVE AMMUNITION, ARTILLERY ONLY BE USED ON ACTUAL ENEMY CONTACT.

C. KHANH HOA PROVINCE: THE PROVINCE HAS ISSUED AN URGENT MESSAGE TO ALL MILITARY AND POLICE AGENCIES WITHIN THE SECTOR STATING THAT THEY HAVE RECEIVED INFORMATION OF ENEMY INTENTIONS TO INCREASE ACTIVITIES DURING THE FORTHCOMING CITY/PROVINCE ELECTIONS. SIMILAR REPORTS FROM BINH DINH AND BINH THUAN PROVINCES INDICATE THERE MAY BE A HIGH POINT IN THE NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS.

D. PLEIKU PROVINCE: MILITARY ACTIVITY WAS QUITE LOW DURING THE PAST WEEK, WITH ONLY 23 INCIDENTS REPORTED, OF WHICH FOUR WERE SHELLINGS. ON THE OTHER HAND, TACTICAL AIR AND VISUAL RECONNAISSANCE MISSIONS WERE HIGHER THIS WEEK BECAUSE OF FAIR WEATHER.

5. ICCS: THE HUNGARIAN TEAM MEMBERS IN LAM DONG PROVINCE WERE VISITED BY A DELEGATION OF EIGHT HEADED BY COLONEL MOLNA, FOLLOWING WHICH RUMORS CIRCULATED THAT THE HUNGARIANS WERE THINKING OF PULLING ALL OFFICERS BACK TO AT LEAST THEIR REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS. IN PHU YEN PROVINCE THE HUNGARIAN DELEGATION MEMBERS ROTATED TO BINH DINH PROVINCE. BOTH OUTGOING MEMBERS WERE REPLACED BY NEWCOMERS. A NEW POLISH DELEGATION DESTINED FOR PHU YEN IS REPORTEDLY IN PLEIKU AND IS EXPECTED TO DEPLOY TO TUY AN AROUND JULY 17. THE PHU YEN PROVINCE CHIEF HAS REQUESTED AN INVESTIGATION OF A MORTAR ATTACK AROUND THE TUY AN DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 08836 04 OF 05 031526Z

44

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AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CG FMFPAC

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CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 SAIGON 08836 04 OF 05 031526Z

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 4 OF 5 SAIGON 8836

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

PART VII - MR-3

1. THE LEVEL OF MILITARY ACTIVITY DECLINED SLIGHTLY FROM THE PREVIOUS REPORTING PERIOD, WITH THE HEAVIEST ACTIVITY STILL IN BINH DUONG PROVINCE. FRIENDLY CASUALTIES REACHED THE HIGHEST LEVELS SINCE THE CEASE-FIRE. HEAVY NEW ASSAULTS BY GVN FORCES FAILED TO DISLODGE THE NVA FROM OUTPOST 82 AND RACH BAP IN THE CONTINUING BATTLE WEST OF BEN CAT. ELSEWHERE, COMMUNIST TROOP ELEMENTS CONTINUED THEIR CAMPAIGN OF GUERRILLA-TYPE ATTACKS THROUGHOUT THE REGION. NOTABLE TARGETS INCLUDED THE LARGE TRAINING CENTER IN LONG THANH DISTRICT OF BIEN HOA PROVINCE AND ROUTE 1 IN EASTERN LONG KHANH PROVINCE, WHICH WAS AGAIN INTERDICTED FOR A THREE-DAY PERIOD. A HIGH LEVEL OF NVA/VC ACTIVITY IS EXPECTED TO CONTINUE INTO JULY.

2. MILITARY INCIDENTS DECLINED FROM LAST WEEK'S 238 TO 218. BINH DUONG HAD 93 INCIDENTS (97 LAST WEEK); TAY NINH RECORDED 26; BIEN HOA FOLLOWED WITH 21. THERE WERE 41 GROUND ATTACKS (49 LAST PERIOD), 99 ABF'S (112 LAST PERIOD), AND 15 COMBINED GROUND AND ATTACKS BY FIRE (13 LAST PERIOD). THIRTY-EIGHT MININGS AND 17 SMALL ARMS HARASSMENTS WERE REPORTED.

3. SIGNIFICANT COMMUNIST ABF'S DROPPED TO ROUGHLY HALF THE WEEKLY AVERAGE EXPERIENCED DURING JUNE, FALLING FROM ABOUT 3,000 ARTILLERY AND MORTAR ROUNDS PER WEEK TO ONLY 1,485. RVNAF ARTILLERY FIRINGS, INCREASED IN SUPPORT OF ACTIONS IN THE BEN CAT AREA, ROSE SHARPLY FROM 29,544 ROUNDS LAST WEEK TO 46,797. VNAF LISTS 345 FIXED-WING AND 384 HELICOPTER GUNSHIP SORTIES FOR THIS PERIOD, CLAIMING 609 NVA/VC KILLED AND 72 SECONDARY EXPLOSIONS.

4. NUMERICALLY LOWER MILITARY INCIDENTS DID NOT MEAN LOWER CASUALTIES. THESE ROSE MARKEDLY FOR THE GVN, WITH MR 3 REPORTING THE HIGHEST FRIENDLY CASUALTY LEVELS SINCE THE CEASE-FIRE. GVN MILITARY LOSSES FOR THE WEEK ENDED 0800 JULY 2 WERE PUT AT 104 KIA (PLUS 19 CIVILIANS), 590 WIA (PLUS 28 CIVILIANS), AND SIX MIA (COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS PERIOD'S 73 KIA, 444 WIA, AND 12 MIA),  
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 SAIGON 08836 04 OF 05 031526Z

AND NVA/VC LOSSES AT 86 KIA, 5 CIA, AND 12 RALLIERS (COMPARED WITH 163 KIA, THREE CIA, AND THREE RALLIERS).

5. IN BINH DUONG, RVNAF LAUNCHED A NEW ASSAULT JUNE 27 TO DISLODGE NVA FORCES FROM THE TWO OUTPOSTS ON PROVINCIAL ROUTE 7, WEST OF BEN CAT. HEAVILY DUG-IN COMMUNIST UNITS HELD THEIR GROUND AND CONTINUE TO OCCUPY OUTPOST 82 AND RACH BAP SOME SEVEN WEEKS AFTER THEY OVERRAN THEM.

6. IN BIEN HOA, AT 0300 ON JUNE 26, AN NVA SAPPER FORCE LAUNCHED A COMBINED ABF AND GROUND ATTACK AGAINST THE YEN THE TRAINING CENTER AT BEARCAT. A PRELIMINARY ABF OF ABOUT 100 82MM MORTAR ROUNDS AND ASSAULT BY SOME 20 TO 30 SAPPERS CAUSED GVN MILITARY PERSONNEL LOSSES OF 12 KIA AND 25 WIA. ADDITIONALLY, THE ATTACK DESTROYED CONSIDERABLE BASE HOUSING, KILLING 16 MILITARY DEPENDENTS AND WOUNDING 15 OTHERS (REVISED FIGURES). THE SAPPERS, WHO LOST SEVEN KIA, HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS AN ELEMENT OF THE D-19 BN, 113TH SAPPER REGT.

7. IN LONG KHANH, NVA/VC ELEMENTS CONTINUE TO OCCUPY THE BAO BINH AREA ABOUT 10 KMS SE OF XUAN LOC, THE SITUATION THERE REMAINING LARGELY STATIC SINCE ARVN UNITS MOVING AGAINST THE COMMUNISTS ON JUNE 24 TOOK SERIOUS LOSSES. NVA/VC FORCES AGAIN FORCED CLOSURE OF ROUTE 1 IN EASTERN LONG KHANH FROM JUNE 26-29 (LAST CLOSED JUNE 11-17) THROUGH A COMBINATION OF ROADBLOCKS, SNIPING, AND ABF'S WITH MORTARS, RECOILLESS RIFLES, AND B40'S. REINFORCED GVN UNITS HAVE KEPT THE ROAD OPEN SINCE JUNE 28 WITH SEVERAL NEW OUTPOSTS AND FREQUENT SWEEPS.

8. ICCS: INDODEL REPORTED THAT SIX "OBSERVATIONS" HAD BEEN CONDUCTED DURING THE WEEK. THREE OF THESE (A MINING INCIDENT AND A GRENADE INCIDENT IN LONG AN, AND SCHEDULED DESTRUCTION OF OLD AMMUNITION AT LONG BINH) WERE RUN JOINTLY WITH IRANDEL, WHILE THE REMAINING THREE WERE UNDERTAKEN BY INDODEL ALONE, (THE SAPPER ATTACK ON YEN THE (PARA 6), AN LCM MINING INCIDENT AT PHU CUONG, AND THE MORTARING OF BEN CAT'S LONG-VACATED ICCS COMPOUND). THE BEN CAT MORTARING CONSISTED OF LIGHT ABF'S ON JUNE 27 AND 28, WHICH DID LIMITED DAMAGE TO COMPOUND STRUCTURES AND FURNISHINGS, BUT INFLECTED NO CASUALTIES. INDODEL AND IRANDEL ARE CURRENTLY IN THE PROCESS OF ROTATING PERSONNEL WITHIN THE REGION. A NEW GROUP OF POLES ARRIVED AT BIEN HOA'S REGION V HQ ON JULY 1, CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 04 SAIGON 08836 04 OF 05 031526Z

BUT HAS NOT YET BEEN INTRODUCED TO OTHER RESIDENT DELEGATIONS.

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 08836 05 OF 05 031522Z

44

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 CIEP-02 AID-20 IO-14 DPW-01

DRC-01 /167 W

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R 031130Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6438

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS UNN

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CG FMFPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB

CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER

COMUSMACTHAI

DAO/ SAIGON/AOSOP-OR

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

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PAGE 02 SAIGON 08836 05 OF 05 031522Z

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 5 OF 5 SAIGON 8836

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

PART VIII - MR-4

1. SECURITY SITUATION: (A) OVERALL ACTIVITY: ACTIVITY IN THE DELTA  
CONTINUED TO DECLINE WITH DINH TUONG THE ONLY PROVINCE TO REPORT

SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASED ACTION. SOME SECTOR OFFICERS BELIEVE CURRENT LULL IS DUE TO VC/NVA PREPARATIONS FOR MID-JULY HIGHPOINT INTENDED TO DISRUPT GVN PROVINCE ELECTIONS. WE NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT HIGHPOINTS OF PAST SEVERAL MONTHS HAVE OCCURRED AT MID-MONTH WITH INTERVENING LULLS IRRESPECTIVE OF POLITICAL EVENTS. FURTHERMORE, ACTIVITY IN THE DELTA, AND PARTICULARLY IN VC MR3, TRADITIONALLY DECLINES AT THIS TIME OF YEAR AS VC/NVA FORCES WITHDRAW TO SANCTUARIES THAT ARE RELATIVELY INACCESSIBLE IN THE RAINY SEASON AFTER HAVING COLLECTED TAXES IN GVN-CONTROLLED AREAS IN THE SPRING. THIS APPEARS TO BE PARTICULARLY TRUE IN THE PROVINCES SURROUNDING CHUONG THIEN WHERE VC/NVA MAIN FORCE UNITS MOVED BACK INTO AREAS NEAR THE CHUONG THIEN BORDER DURING JUNE. IN THE NORTHERN DELTA, ON OTHER HAND, VC/NVA APPEAR TO BE IN GOOD POSITION TO INCREASE ACTIVITY.

(B) STATISTICAL SUMMARY: CORPS REPORTS 258 INCIDENTS (322 LAST WEEK) CONSISTING OF 31 GROUND ATTACKS (28), NO INFILTRATIONS (ONE), 155 ABF (188), 58 HARASSMENTS (91), 6 SABOTAGE (NONE), AND 8 TERRORIST INCIDENTS. GVN LOSSES DECLINED TO 127 KIA (148), 568 WIA (724), 32 MIA (15), AND 3 CREW-SERVED (2) AND 51 INDIVIDUAL (108) WEAPONS LOST. CORPS CLAIMS 529 VC/NVA KIA (618), 16 PRISONERS AND SUSPECTS CAPTURED (16), AND 18 CREW-SERVED (20) AND 170 INDIVIDUAL (187) WEAPONS SEIZED.

(C) NORTHERN DELTA: DINH TUONG PROVINCE REPORTS INCREASED ACTIVITY MOSTLY RESULTING FROM GVN OPERATIONS. 22 PSDF WERE KIDNAPPED (18 IN ONE INCIDENT AT LONG KHANH (V), CAI LAY (D). VC/NVA CONTINUED TO TARGET LOC'S. ROADBLOCKS WERE BUILT ON HIGHWAY 4 IN SAM GAIING (D) AND ROUTE 20 IN CAI BE (D), AND A BRIDGE ON ROUTE 210 IN SAM GIANG (D) WAS DAMAGED BY EXPLOSIVES, HALTING TRAFFIC TEMPORARILY. MR4 REPORTS 261A AND 261C BATTALIONS OF DONG THAP I REGIMENT, WITH

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SAIGON 08836 05 OF 05 031522Z

ENGINEER AND SAPPER UNITS, HAVE BEEN TARGETED AGAINST HIGHWAY 4 IN SAM GIANG (D). IN KIEN PHONG PROVINCE, ACTIVITY CONTINUED TO DECREASE WITH SCATTERED INCIDENTS IN MY AN, KIEN VAN, AND HONG NGU DISTRICTS AND SEVERAL MINOR INCIDENTS IN CAO LANH DISTRICT. THE KIEN VAN DISTRICT COMPOUND WAS SHELLED, WOUNDING 4 CIVILIANS. SEVERAL VC/NVA REDEPLOYMENTS WERE OBSERVED INCLUDING MOVEMENT OF 261B BATTALION OF DONG THAP I REGIMENT INTO BASE AREA 307. KIEN PHONG S-2 BELIEVES THESE MOVEMENTS ARE IN PREPARATION FOR INCREASED ACTIVITY IN JULY IN VILLAGES ALONG ROUTE 30 IN KIEN VAN (D) AND IN AN BINH AND NHI MY VILLAGES, CAO LANH (D). HE ALSO BELIEVES THESE ATTACKS WERE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN JULY 1, BUT WERE POSTPONED BECAUSE OF INSUFFICIENT TROOP REPLACEMENTS. CHAU DOC PROVINCE SAW CONTINUED ABF'S AGAINST OUTPOSTS IN TINH BIEN AND TRI TON DISTRICTS, BUT CASUALTIES ON BOTH SIDES WERE LIGHT. THE AGGRESSIVE ROUND-UP OF DESERTERS AND DRAFT

DODGERS IN CHAU DOC CONTINUED WITH 121 DESERTERS AND 847 DRAFT DODGERS APPREHENDED IN JUNE. SA DEC PROVINCE WAS QUIET WITH ONLY THREE BOOBY-TRAP INCIDENTS AND THREE GVN-INITIATED INCIDENTS REPORTED. ABOUT 110 REFUGEES FROM QUANG TIN PROVINCE HAVE ARRIVED IN LOWER DUC TON (D). OF 320 HOA HAO RESETTLED IN THE SAME AREA LATE LAST YEAR, ONLY ABOUT 60 REMAIN (MOSTLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN). OTHERS HAVE REPORTEDLY LEFT BECAUSE OF VC HARASSMENT.

(D) CENTRAL DELTA: VINH LONG PROVINCE REMAINED RELATIVELY QUIET WITH THE MOST SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT THE DETONATION OF A PLASTIQUE CHARGE IN TAM BINH DISTRICT MARKET RESULTING IN TWO KILLED AND 11 WOUNDED. A DEMONSTRATION AGAINST VC TERRORISM OCCURRED A FEW MINUTES AFTER THE BLAST. KIEN HOA PROVINCE REPORTS THE QUIETEST WEEK IN OVER A MONTH. SAGGING PROVINCIAL FORCE MORALE WAS BOOSTED BY A CONTACT BETWEEN THE 401ST RF BATTALION AND THE VC D6 AND D7 BATTALIONS IN THE OLD 490 BASE AREA. 38 VC WERE KILLED AND LARGE QUANTITIES OF WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION CAPTURED AT A COST OF ONE RF KILLED AND 7 WOUNDED. KIEN HOA CITIZENS COLLECTED 220 MTHOUSAND PIASTERS AS A GIFT TO THE BATTALION. BEN TRE (PROVINCE CAPITAL) AND PHUOC HUNG DISTRICT TOWN WERE MORTARED AND A CHARGE WAS EXPLODED IN FRONT OF AN HOI VILLAGE TEMPLE IN BEN TRE, BUT NO CASUALTIES OR DAMAGE RESULTED FROM ANY OF THESE INCIDENTS. KIEN GIANG PROVINCE REPORTS A SHARP DROP IN VC/NVA-INITIATED ACTIVITY FROM 60 INCIDENTS LAST CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 04 SAIGON 08836 05 OF 05 031522Z

WEEK TO 15 THIS WEEK. MOST ACTIVIE WERE KIEN THANH AND KIEN LUONG DISTRICTS AROUND THE THREE SISTERS AREA. 16TH REGIMENT/ 9TH ARVN DISVISION AND 2ND TROOP/12TH ARMORED CAVALRY SQUADRON MADE SEVERAL SIGNIFICANT CONTACTS IN THE AREA. PRELIMINARY REPORTS LIST 23 VC KIA AND SEVERAL WEAPONS CAPTURED IN THREE SEPARATE CONTACTS WITH TWO GVN SOLDIERS WOUNDED. ABF'S AGAINST VILLAGE HEADQUARTERS CONTINUED WITH 127 B-40, M-79, 82MM AND 61MM ROUNDS DIRECTED AGAINST VILLAGES IN KIEN BINH, KIEN AN, KIEN THANH, AND HA TIEN DISTRICTS. VINH BINH PROVINCE REPORTS TWO SIGNIFICANT CONTACTS IN CAU KE AND CANG LONG DISTRICTS RESULTING IN 5 RF KIA, 1 RF MIA, 16 RF WIA, AND 62 VC KIA. PHONG DINH PROVINCE WAS RELATIVELY QUIET AS VC/NVA MAIN FORCE UNITS HAVE WITHDRAWN INTO BASE AREAS IN CHUONG THIEN. THERE WERE NO GROUND ATTACKS OR ABF'S THIS WEEK.

(E) SOUTHERN DELTA:: ACTIVITY IN BA XUYEN PROVINCE DECLINED, BUT GVN CASUALTIES INCREASED. TWO GROUND ATTACKS AGAINST OB'S IN HOA TU AND THANH TRI DISTRICTS WERE REPULSED WITH 5 VC KILLED AND 2 PF WOUNDED. IN BAC LIEU PROVINCE, INCIDENTS DECREASED BY 50 PERCENT. HALF OF THESE WERE IN GIA RAI DISTRICT. GIA RAI SUB-SECTOR S-2 BELIEVES VC/NVA ARE ATTEMPTING TO EXPAND AREA OF CONTROL IN SOUTHWESTERN PART OF THE DISTRICT BY FORCING ABANDONMENT OF STRATEGIC OB'S. AFTER THREE WEEKS IN VINH CHAU (D), 3RD TROOP/12TH ARMORED

CAVALRY SQUADRON LEFT FOR CAN THO AND WAS REPLACED BY 1ST RROOP/  
16TH SQUADRON WHICH MOVED INTO BAC LIEU PROVINCE TOWN FROM DINH  
TUONG. 3/12 WAS UNABLE TO ENGAGE PHU LI I BATTALION DUE TO  
POL SHORTAGE. VINH CHAU DISTRICT CHIEF SAY PHU LOI I HAS  
NOW MOVED NORTH TO HOA TU (D), BA XUYEN (P). ACTIVITY  
IN CHUONG THIEN PROVINCE CONTINUED TO DECLINE WITH ONLY ONE  
SIGNIFICANT GROUND CONTACT REPORTED. 529 RF BATTALION (TDY FROM  
CHAU DOC) KILLED 16 VC WHILE SUSTAINING 4 WOUNDED IN A CONTACT  
ON HUONG LONG/KIEN THIEN DISTRICT BORDER. IN A SEPARATE  
INCIDENT, TWO RF BATTALIONS (425TH AND 533RD) ACCIDENTLY  
FIRED ON EACH OTHER RESULTING IN ONE COMPANY COMMANDER KILLED  
AND TWO RF WOUNDED. IN AN XUYEN PROVINCE, PRESSURE ON SONG  
ONG DOC DISTRICT SLACKENED, BUT ACTIVITY INCREASED ON THE DAM  
DOI/QUAN LONG DISTRICT BORDER. 31ST REGIMENT TROOPS IN SONG ONG  
DOC HAVE SUCCEEDED IN RETAKING ONLY TWO OF NINE OB'S LOST  
THERE LAST MONTH. THE 66TH PF PLATOON DESERTED THE CAI BAT  
OB IN A POPULATED AREA SIX KM SQ OF CA MAU. THE UNIT HAD  
SUFFERED TWO KILLED AND 4 WOUNDED IN PREVIOUS CONTACT WITH  
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PAGE 05 SAIGON 08836 05 OF 05 031522Z

VC, BUT HAD BEEN WITHOUT CONTACT FOR 36 HOURS WHEN THEY  
ABANDONED THE OB. THE PLATOON HAS SINCE RETURNED TO THE  
OB AND THE PLATOON LEADER HAS BEEN JAILED. SEVERAL AN XUYEN  
SOURCES INDICATE THE VC SAPPER TRAINING CENTER HAS BEEN  
MOVED FROM KIEN GIANG TO SONG ONG DOC (D). 40 SAPPERS NOW  
UNDER TRAINING FOR A TWO-MONTH PERIOD WILL REPORTEDLY BE  
ASSIGNED TO CA MAU, BAC LIEU, SOC TRANG, AND VI THANH.

2. GVN AFFAIRS: MAJOR TRINH TAN TIEP, FORMER CHUONG THIEN  
S-2, HAS BEEN APPOINTED KIEN THIEN DISTRICT CHIEF. TIEP  
IS A HIGHLY REGARDED OFFICER WHO IS CONSIDERED AN IMPROVEMENT  
OVER HIS PREDECESSOR.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPORTS, ARMISTICE, TREATY VIOLATION, COMBAT OPERATIONS, COMBAT CASUALTIES, MILITARY AGREEMENTS, MEETINGS, TRUCE OBSERVERS, POLITICAL PRISONERS, ECONOMIC PROGRAMS, ELECTIONS, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 JUL 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** shawdg  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974SAIGON08836  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740176-0830  
**From:** SAIGON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740777/aaaacntd.tel  
**Line Count:** 854  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 16  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** shawdg  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 22 APR 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <22 APR 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <20 FEB 2003 by shawdg>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VIET-NAM CEASE-FIRE WEEKLY ASSESSMENT JUNE 26-JULY 3, 1974 CINCPAC FOR POLAD  
**TAGS:** PINT, PFOR, ECON, VS, TPJMC, ICCS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005